

BUILDING U.S.-CHINA BRIDGES

China Center Annual Report 2006-07

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

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Note about Chinese names: The China Center's policy is to print an individual's name according to the custom of the place where they live (e.g., family name first for a person who lives in China).



Dr. Yongwei Zhang

The China Center has had a tremendous year. I feel greatly honored and fortunate to take on the responsibility of leading this vibrant and important center at the University of Minnesota. It is a great pleasure to have this opportunity to work with you to expand Minnesota's relationships with China. As you might know, the former director Dr. Hong Yang left the China Center in January of this year to accept a position in the private sector. During his tenure, Dr. Yang developed many new initiatives that have expanded the role of the China Center here at the University and in the larger community. His vision has greatly shaped the mission of the China Center, and we will continue to build on the programs he has started.

The last year was a very busy and successful year. The annual Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture was given by Dr. Pieter Bottelier, who provided a timely and relevant comparison of India and China's economic development. There continues to be much interest in the potential and challenges of these two large economies. Helping us ring in the Year of the Pig was Dr. Robert Jacobsen of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, who provided a fascinating look at the lives of Chinese emperors and officials through the museum's astounding collection of imperial Chinese silks. In the spring, the Institute of Technology and the China Center supported the honorary doctorate nomination of Professor Lu Yongxiang, president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences and vice chairman of the National People's Congress. This honor, the highest the University bestows, was conferred at the University in May. The China Center continued its important role in supporting the development of K-12 Chinese language education by hosting another successful China Day for metro area high school students studying Chinese. We also hosted a seminar for school administrators on starting Chinese language programs and coordinated a delegation of school administrators to attend the Chinese Bridge Conference in Beijing in June.

The strong relationships with our Corporate Partners continue to deepen. Over the last year, the China Center staff conducted on-site workshops at partner organizations for employees at all levels. We collaborated in seminars and also worked to provide meaningful connections between the Corporate Partners and the many Chinese delegations visiting Minnesota.

Your generous support of the annual Red Pockets Appeal and the great number of scholarships it provides for University students to study in China has truly impressed me. I am anxious to expand our students' study and research opportunities in China and, in the next year, will strengthen efforts to bring more Chinese undergraduate students to the University.

It is my great privilege to take the lead of the China Center. With your support, we can continue to make a meaningful impact on the future of China relations for our children, the University, and Minnesota. I encourage you to contact me if you have an interest and desire to contribute to building U.S.-China bridges.

The image shows two versions of the signature of Dr. Yongwei Zhang. On the left is a cursive English signature, and on the right is a Chinese calligraphic signature in black ink.

Students and Scholars 學生學者

China Center Scholarships Help Students Study in China

One of the most important goals of the China Center is to encourage more students to visit mainland China, Hong Kong, and Taiwan. Through several scholarships and exchange programs, the China Center supports students who want to study and conduct research in Greater China. The China Center supported the following students last year:

Hsiao Scholarship

Nancy Vang
Nicholas Brogren
Emily L. Chen
Luke Bergmann
Paige Broman
Jennifer Chang
Sarah Hennes
Irene Tran
Molly Watters
Cheryl Wilgren Clyne

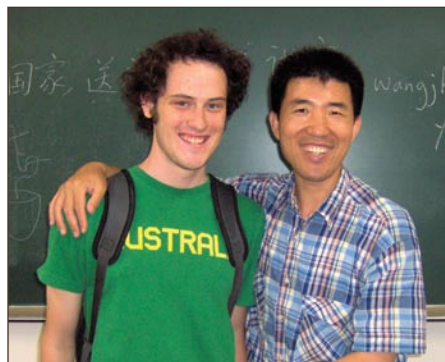
Emily L. Chen
Luke Bergmann
Paige Broman
Jennifer Chang
Ping-yao Chen
Michael Kari
Tommy Ng
Molly Tolzmann
Molly Watters
Cheryl Wilgren Clyne
Michael Wong

Red Pockets Scholarship

Laura Kwong
Christine Liu
Nicholas Brogren

Chinese Government Scholarship

Linh Phuong Nguyen



2005-06 IRSEP Exchange Student Nick Havey with a professor at Nankai University

China Universities Exchange Program

Paul Thomas Hedman-Dennis

International Reciprocal Student Exchange Program

Tylor Conrad Wagner

Alumni 校友活動

CLA Dean Rosenstone Visits Alumni in China



Dean Rosenstone with alumni in Nankai

In Beijing, he met with a number of alumni and shared stories about their warm memories of their time at the University. Approximately 20 alumni gathered at Nankai University to meet the dean and their fellow alumni. The dean's visit has generated new interest in expanding the long-standing exchange with Nankai University and creating new programs and initiatives with the Beijing Film Academy.

UMD Co-Hosts China Conference on Speech Therapy

Excerpt from a report by Professor Mark Mizuko, University of Minnesota Duluth

The First China International Conference on Speech Therapy, co-hosted by the University of Minnesota Duluth, brought together speech-language pathologists and related clinical rehabilitation professionals in Beijing, April 7-9. The theme “clinical applications” permeated 24 presentations from 22 institutions, representing China, Hong Kong, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, and the United States. Attendees exchanged current information about the diagnosis and treatment of speech, hearing, language, and swallowing disorders. The co-sponsors of the conferences—the Chinese Medical Doctor Association and the Beijing Rehabilitation Medical Association, along with UMD—have agreed to hold a second conference in 2009.

Five faculty members and five graduate students from UMD made presentations at the conference. Representing UMD at the event were: Paul Deputy, dean of the College of Education and Human Service Professions; Mark Mizuko, professor and head, Department of Communication Sciences and Disorders (DCSD); Lynette Carlson, clinic director, DCSD; Jolene Hyppa-Martin, instructor, DCSD; and Lynne Bye, associate professor, Department of Social Work. Former faculty member Amy Meredith also attended. The three UMD graduate students (Amanda Stearns, Tara Watterson, and Kathryn Guerttman) and former graduate students (Colette Murphy and Jill Muecke) also took part in the conference.

Note: The China Center assisted Professor Mizuko with an earlier trip to China, which led to the organizing of this conference.

China Center Assists Professor with Research in China

by Professor Samuel L. Myers, Jr., Roy Wilkins Professor of Human Relations and Social Justice, Humphrey Institute

I am an extremely grateful beneficiary of the many services offered to faculty by the China Center. I conduct research on remedies to racial and ethnic economic inequality, and I learned of the work of several economists at Beijing University undertaking analysis of population and labor issues using the Chinese census. I needed to know how ethnic minorities were classified in existing data sets measuring social and economic status in China. I approached the China Center for information on contacts at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences and elsewhere and discovered not only that the University of Minnesota was a depository for the Chinese census but that one of the leading researchers in the analysis of the Chinese census data has a close association with the China Center.

Through careful planning and dedicated efforts, the China Center helped me arrange to meet with officials in two different institutes in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. I am hearing-impaired, so the China Center also worked with the University's Disability Services to set up remote captioning capacity for my visits to Beijing. Two trips to China in the spring and summer resulted in new contacts with faculty at the Central University of Nationalities—the major institution of higher education providing advanced scholarship on and for racial and ethnic groups in China—and a path-breaking collaboration with Dr. Ding Sai, an economist working at the Institute for Ethnology and Anthropology in the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences. Along with help in securing multiple entry visas and making informed suggestions about accommodations and ethnic minority restaurants, the China Center provided me with much-needed advice on protocols, customs, and cultural nuances associated with travel in China. Thank you to the China Center and its wonderful staff!

K-12 Delegation Returns to China

In October, the China Center helped organize a delegation of education officials to Beijing to explore opportunities for developing K-12 teacher exchange programs. The delegation was led by Dr. Dan Bittman, director of Educator Licensing and Teacher Quality for the Minnesota Department of Education. Other delegates included: Karen Balmer, executive director of the Minnesota Board of Teaching; Jane Gilles and Professors Martha Bigelow and Dee Tedick from the University's College of Education and Human Development; Kent Pekel, Consortium for Post-secondary Academic Success; and Joan Brzezinski, China Center. The delegation explored the development of teacher exchange as part of a larger initiative to increase the teaching of Chinese language in the state. They looked at how China prepares teachers and how licensing and quality standards vary from those in Minnesota. The delegation met with representatives from the Beijing International Education Exchange Center, Ministry of Education, China Language Council International (Han Ban), and Capital Normal and Beijing Normal universities.

In June, the China Center, with support from the Chinese Consulate General in Chicago, coordinated a week-long trip to China for 18 high school principals to attend the Han Ban 2007 Chinese Bridge Conference in Beijing. The principals represented public schools and districts around the state, including Albert Lea, Buffalo, Duluth, Cottage Grove, Hopkins, Nicollet, Osseo, Perham, Rochester, Roseville, St. Michael/Albertville, St. Paul, Wilmar, and Wayzata. The delegates joined 600 teachers and administrators from schools across the U.S. and South Korea for the two-day conference in Beijing. Delegates then traveled to various provinces and cities to see regional differences in the education system in China. The Minnesota delegates visited with schools and educators in Wuxi and Suzhou cities in Jiangsu Province.

The China Center, along with the University's Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition (CARLA) and Minnesota Department of Education, hosted Dr. Shuhan Wang, executive director for Chinese Language Initiatives for the Asia Society, as the featured speaker in a seminar for K-12 school administrators, "How to Start a Chinese Language Program in Your School." Experts from the faculty at the University's College of Education and Human Development, the Minnesota Department of Education, and the Breck School also gave presentations on teacher licensing issues, program structure and assessment, and a general history of Chinese language programs in Minnesota.

Fun at the Annual U of M China Day

More than 550 local high school students participated in the China Center's annual China Day in April. Participating schools included Highland Park, Minneapolis South, St. Paul Central, Edina, Minnetonka, and St. Croix Lutheran. The day began with an uplifting *taiqi* presentation by Barbara Davis, the founder of Great River T'ai Chi Ch'uan. The students participated in some of the basic movements and learned about the mental and physical benefits of practicing this ancient Chinese exercise. After focusing their *qi*, the students heard from Minnesota State Senator Erik Paulson, author of the recent K-12 Mandarin Education Bill, who explained to the students why he became interested in promoting Chinese language in Minnesota. He used his personal experiences in China as well as stories of people he knows to show the potential impact and benefit of learning to speak Chinese. Next, Kent Pekel, executive director of the University's Consortium for Post-secondary Academic Success, told of his personal journey of learning Chinese and living in China. He impressed the students with his Chinese language ability and also gave them some compelling statistics about China as encouragement to continue learning Chinese. Kent brought down the house when he showed a recording of himself and a classmate singing and dancing in a "Foreigners Singing Chinese Songs" competition live on Chinese television, filmed when he was a student in China.

Mingda Institute Focuses on Higher Education Policy and Administration Training

Guided by the University's strategic initiative of forging an international university, the China Center's Mingda* Institute for Leadership Training has hosted more than 300 Chinese executives from government, academic, and business sectors in 2006-07.

The Institute has devoted more of its efforts to deliver higher education policy and administration training programs and to initiate international education exchanges between the University and Chinese institutions. More than 180 university presidents, deans, heads, and directors were trained at the University of Minnesota over the past year:

- China University of Mining and Technology Senior Faculty Training (34 professors)
- Capital Normal University Student Affairs Administration (15 directors)
- Beijing Film Academy Senior Faculty (15 college deans and department heads)
- Regional Education Delegation from Beijing Municipal Education Commission
- Higher Education Policy and Academic Teaching (35 professors from 16 universities in Beijing)
- Higher Education Administration Training (22 presidents from 20 universities in Sichuan Province)
- Chengdu Medical School Higher Education Administration (10 department heads)
- Sichuan Normal University Higher Education Administration (10 deans and department directors)
- Higher Education Policy Training for Wuhan University (10 senior administrators)

Several high-profile training programs were conducted for both central and local levels of the Chinese government, including 26 directors general and senior officials from the State Administration of Taxation of the People's Republic of China, 22 county commission commissioners from Sichuan Province, and 13 mid-career youth leaders selected nationally by the China Communist Youth League.

A number of business administration training groups were hosted, including 13 human resources professionals and senior managers from the China Council for the Promotion of International Trade (the most important and the largest institution for the promotion of foreign trade in China) and more than 80 CEOs and senior managers from private companies in Guangdong Province, which is the most economically dynamic area in southern China.

Looking into the future, Training Coordinator Yuedong Zhou is confident in the China Center's ability to further expand the Mingda Institute for Leadership Training, which is recognized as one of the top international training centers by the China State Administration of Foreign Experts Affairs (SAFEA).



Members of the China University of Mining and Technology training delegation with University of Minnesota and China Center staff

* Mingda is the Chinese acronym for the University of Minnesota.

2006 Griffin Lecture Compares Economies of China and India



Professor Pieter Bottelier, Kim and Bob Griffin, and Hong Yang

In December, economist and scholar Professor Pieter Bottelier presented the 2006 Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture, “China’s Role in a Changing World: A Comparative Analysis of China and India.” A senior adjunct professor at the Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Professor Bottelier engaged the audience in a fascinating discussion about the development of these two disparate and yet similar economies.

He pointed out that 25 years ago India and China had about the same per capita income. Today China’s per capita income measured on the same basis is 2.5 times India’s. Bilateral trade between the two countries is expanding and the competition is driving improvements on both sides. Professor Bottelier noted “the potential for continued rapid growth may not be realized unless India conquers a number of key challenges... 1. Broader-based manufacturing development is critical for job creation... 2. Build (the) critically needed national, rural, and urban infrastructure quickly... 3. Increase the national saving rate... 4. At the political level, build a national consensus for fiscal reform, additional economic liberalization, and domestic market integration... and 5. India needs to attract more direct foreign investment....”

Professor Bottelier concluded with his view that the impact of these two great nations on the world’s economy may not be as dire as others predict and that if India were to follow some of the strategies that have been successfully employed by the Chinese, their economy would continue to grow to the benefit of all.

An audio version of the lecture is available at: www.chinacenter.umn.edu/news/eventsannual_griffin.html



Professor Bottelier discusses the economies of China and India

Bob and Kim Griffin donated \$500,000 to the China Center to create an endowment fund to establish the Bob and Kim Griffin Building U.S.-China Bridges Lecture. The Griffin’s gift reflects their commitment to promoting mutual respect between the two cultures and their passion to connect people with China.

New Year Celebration Features Chinese Imperial Silks

The China Center hosted a successful New Year's dinner celebration on Feb. 15 in honor of the Year of the Pig. The banquet—with about 180 guests from academia, business, nonprofits, and public sectors—was held at the Humphrey Center Atrium. The room was festively decorated with red and gold candies, lanterns, replica firecrackers, couplets, and other colorful Chinese New Year items.

Dr. Robert Jacobsen, chair of the Department of Asian Art at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, gave an interesting and informative presentation on Chinese imperial silks. Jacobsen is the author of *Imperial Silks: Ch'ing Dynasty Textiles in the Minneapolis Institute of Arts*. His 30-minute talk focused on the historic importance of silk and silk technology to the early development of China's international trade and the expansion of the fabled Silk Road, as well as the role played by silk in China's hierarchical Confucian society in the feudal imperial time. Jacobsen's detailed presentation along with pictures of some breathtakingly beautiful imperial silk robes was certainly the highlight of the night.



Joan Brzezinski and Dr. Robert Jacobsen

At the end of the program, Interim Director Joan Brzezinski presented recognition plaques to the China Center's Corporate Partners and thanked them for their generous support. Outgoing China Center Advisory Council members were also recognized for their long-term dedication to the China Center.



Stroke, Stroke!

China Center staff and friends participated in the dragon boat races, a part of the annual Dragon Festival held at Lake Phalen in July 2006.

Lu Yongxiang Receives Honorary Doctor of Science

Professor Lu Yongxiang, vice chairman of the Standing Committee of China’s National People’s Congress and president of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, received an honorary doctor of science degree from the



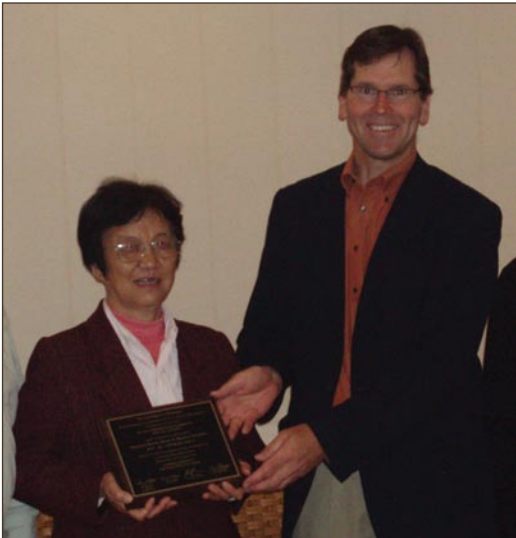
*Dr. Robert Bruininks, president of the University of Minnesota;
Dr. Lu; and Dr. Steven Crouch, dean of the Institute of Technology*

University of Minnesota at a ceremony on the Twin Cities campus on May 21. An honorary doctorate is the highest honor bestowed on an individual by the University. Professor Lu was honored for his innovative leadership and research in the area of mechanical engineering, his pioneering vision and analysis of key scientific principles, his leadership in education, and his tremendous service as a national leader in advancing science policies that strengthen China and better the lives of the Chinese people.

Professor Bingxin Zhang Awarded Certificate of Recognition

By Professor Brian Steffenson, Department of Plant Pathology

The University of Minnesota Plant Pathology and Agronomy and Plant Genetics Departments together with the China Center awarded Professor Bingxin Zhang of Zhejiang University with a certificate of recognition in Hangzhou, China, in May. The award was bestowed on Professor Zhang for her outstanding collaboration in cereal disease research and fostering stronger relationships between China and the United States. Since 1995, the University of Minnesota and North Dakota State University have collaborated with Professor Zhang on combating *Fusarium* head blight, a devastating fungus disease of cereals that has caused more than \$3 billion in losses nationwide. Professor Zhang has been instrumental in establishing off-season disease screening nurseries in Hangzhou that have facilitated the development of resistant barley and wheat varieties for farmers.



Professor Zhang and Brian Steffenson, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology

Farewell to Director Hong Yang

After almost seven years as the director of the China Center, Dr. Hong Yang left the University last January to take a job in the private sector. Under Hong's leadership, the China Center's mission and its influence grew tremendously. His many contributions will continue to inspire the China Center's work of building U.S.-China bridges for years to come.

In 2001, he created the Mingda Institute for Leadership Training, which has brought more than 1,600 mid-career Chinese executives from education, business, and government institutions to special training programs at the University. These leaders have returned to China to take important leadership posts and have continued to maintain relationships with Minnesota. These relationships have led to exchanges and extended networks that have benefited the University as well as business and government.



Dr. Hong Yang

Envisioning a greater exchange between Minnesota businesses and China, Hong created the China Center's Corporate Partners program to better address the important issues related to business exchange between China and Minnesota. Hong also worked with individual donors to create endowed funds that will continue to provide quality programming on China now and in the future. Hong was instrumental in helping University colleges, departments, and faculty build academic exchange and research relationships in China.

One of his top priorities was to seek out ways to increase the number of students studying in China. In addition to securing new scholarship funds, he worked to promote a number of faculty-led China seminars. In 2002, Hong created China Day to encourage area K-12 students to continue studying Mandarin. It is now an annual event that highlights opportunities at the University and provides students with a broader understanding of Chinese culture and how they might incorporate Chinese language into their careers and futures. Hong accompanied two Minnesota governors and two University presidents to China. He also worked to acknowledge outstanding contributions of University alumni in China. With his help, three new chapters of the University of Minnesota Alumni Association were established in Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Hong Kong. He also supported the nominations of three honorary doctorate degrees to acknowledge the outstanding accomplishments of Chinese alumni and other influential people.

These many accomplishments are impressive; however, Hong will probably best be remembered for his passion for building bridges of exchange and igniting the interest of people at the University and in our community to learn more about China. His strong leadership, infectious enthusiasm, and energy will surely be missed, but we wish him well for the future and know that he will continue to find success.

Contributions Make a Significant Impact

Your support makes a great difference! Over the last year, the China Center was able to provide scholarship assistance to 13 students (see story on p. 2). On behalf of the students, we would like to offer our many thanks to the Hsiao family and to all of you who have donated to the Red Pockets Annual Fund. As you will see from the quotes below, each student has had an experience in China that will last them a lifetime.

We urge you to continue your support and provide a direct and meaningful benefit to other students who are interested in pursuing their study and research in China. Please visit our website at www.chinacenter.umn.edu/support/ or contact the China Center at 612-624-1002 to make a gift.

“Receiving this funding from the China Center provided me with tremendous opportunities, not only in the academic respects that were the formal reason for my visit to China, but also on many more human levels. It was truly inspiring to have this opportunity to participate, however modestly, in such a dynamic environment reflecting the world-historic changes underway in contemporary China.”

— **Luke Bergmann, Ph.D. student in geography**

“Thank you from the bottom of my heart for giving me the opportunity to spend time in China and nearby nations. Through the trials of living away from home for so long, surrounded by conversation that I couldn't understand, and traveling on my own, I grew in personal strength, confidence, and wisdom. I expanded in vocabulary, cultural knowledge, and friendship and made strides in better understanding myself and how to relate to others.”

— **Laura Kwong, undergraduate student in engineering**

“My trip to China was an incredible life-changing experience. Upon returning to the United States, the most prevalent feeling that I have experienced is my lack of interest in pursuing an overly abundant life..... This trip does make me want to do two things more abundantly though. That is travel and learn more about the global economy.”

— **Sarah Hennes, undergraduate student in accounting**

“This award brings validation to me as a student, filmmaker, and as an artist. To present my art at an international level is a very high honor. I will be sure to document some of my travels so that I am able to share my good fortune and experience with others. I hope that one day I am able to help art students as you have helped me.”

— **Cheryl Wilgren Clyne, graduate student in art and film**

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations who generously supported the China Center in 2006-07.

Gifts listed were received or pledged between July 1, 2006, and June 30, 2007.

Gifts of \$25,000 and up

Best Buy
Cargill
Petters Group Worldwide
Michael D. Schumann and Amy Xu
Thomson West

Gifts of \$10,000 to \$24,999

Lurie Besikof Lapidus & Company

Gifts of \$1,000 to \$9,999

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Tea House Chinese Restaurant
Nancy R. Wilhelmson
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MN State Colleges and Universities
MN Trade Office
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College of Pharmacy

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University Relations

China Center Provides Custom Training for Partners

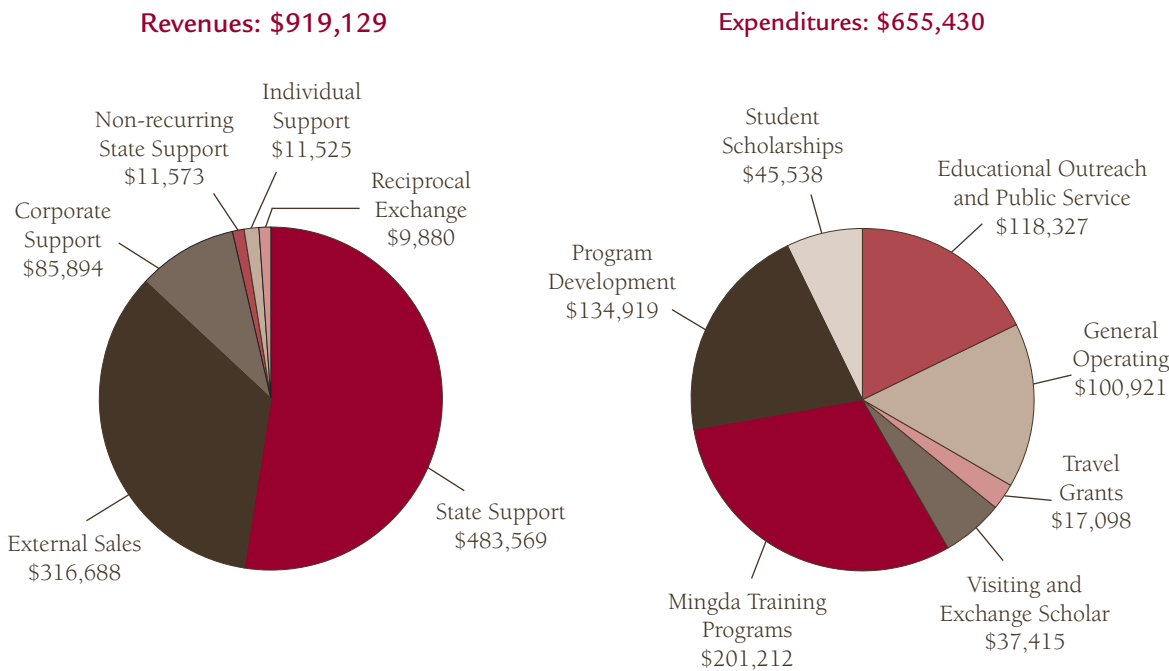
The China Center's Corporate Partnership program had a productive year, cosponsoring a number of educational programs with Cargill, Lurie Besikof Lapidus and Company, and MCG. The programs were custom-designed for company employees and addressed many cross-cultural business communication questions, such as: "Why does my email go unanswered?" and "Why do I have issues with what is promised and what is delivered?"

Programs examined peer-to-peer and subordinate-to-superior communication and looked at general workplace trends in China including recruitment and retention. More and more, with the increase in exchange and business between Minnesota and China, we are finding that other corporations and organizations also have a need for programs such as these. Contact the China Center for more information on special programs for your workplace.

- 2006-07 Corporate Partners
- Best Buy
Cargill
Dorsey & Whitney, L.L.P.
Four51°
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
Griffin International Companies
Lurie Besikof Lapidus and Co.
MCG Technology
Petters Group Worldwide
Thomson West
St. Jude Medical

Budget 財務狀況

July 1, 2006–June 30, 2007



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Nils Hasselmo
Annie Wu (Hong Kong)

Interim President

Ann Waltner

Term Ending June 2007

Mahmood Zaidi

Term Ending June 2008

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Meredith McQuaid	Roger Ruan

Term Ending June 2009

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Zigang Dong	Hoyt Hsiao
Randy Johnson	Tony Lorusso
Phil Peterson	Kaimay Terry

Term Ending June 2010

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Paul Glewwe	Joel Lebewitz
Christopher Langholz	Ruilin Li
Judd Sheridan	Margaret Wong
Amy S. Xu	

Term Ending June 2011

Rick King

China Center Office Information

2006-07 Staff

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Former Director: Hong Yang
Assistant Director: Joan Brzezinski
Training Program Coordinator: Yuedong Zhou
Coordinator for Educational Programs and Communications: Jennifer Dunn
Administrative Assistant: Jamie Polga
Principal Office & Administrative Assistant: Brita Ferris
Assistant Translators: Xueqin Qian, Zijie Peng, Na Sun
Training Program Assistants: Xue Bai, Hongwei Guo, Po Hu, Yu Li

Office Hours

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Monday through Friday

Location

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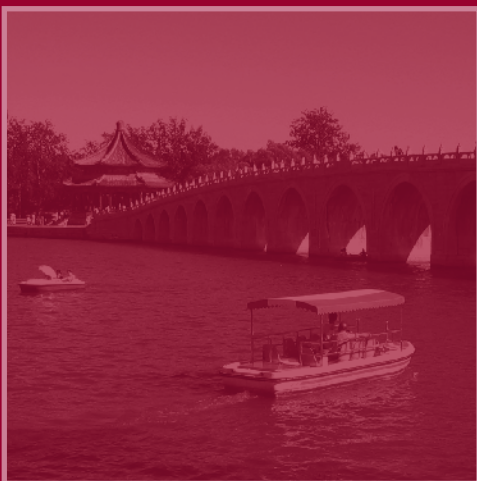
About the China Center

The University of Minnesota China Center builds bridges between the U.S. and Greater China. To fulfill this mission, the China Center draws on the strengths of the University of Minnesota and partners with public and private organizations in Minnesota and the U.S. to promote relations with Greater China by:

- Facilitating educational exchange, collaborative research, teaching, and training activities
- Fostering an understanding of history, cultures, and values
- Serving as a catalyst and resource for the promotion of economic, governmental, and civic pursuits
- Increasing mutual interest and understanding

The China Center was established in 1979 to manage the University's exchanges with China. For more than two decades, the China Center has reflected the firm and long-standing commitment of the University to international research, teaching, and outreach. The China Center facilitates student study in China and faculty research and collaborative projects; trains China's future leadership; and supports the activities of Chinese alumni. The China Center also organizes and sponsors seminars and programs on culture, politics, trade, and development to foster a greater understanding of China.

BUILDING U.S.-CHINA BRIDGES



中國中心

China Center
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA